

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of

HUTCHISON

Serial No. 09/846,782

Filed: May 2, 2001

Atty. Ref.: 11-902

Group: 1772

Examiner: Unassigned

For: TUFTED COVERING FOR FLOORS AND/OR WALLS

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July 30, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 1, with the following
rewritten paragraph:

(Amended) The appearance of the present covering is retained over a long period of usage. Instead of having exposed upstanding pile continuously worn down in high-traffic areas as in conventional tufted carpet, the wear surface of the present covering is provided in part by the backstitches, which are drawn tightly against the primary backing. Consequently, a very dense pile, with little capability for movement, is afforded. Moreover, with this construction, the textile characteristics of the covering, such as multiple colors and different textures, are retained.

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